

# Hindu Organ

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JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY  
 AUGUST 3, 1898

திந்துசாதனம்.

கலியுகம் ரூ.000.  
 ம.க.க. ஆகஸ்டுமீ ௧௨

{ NO. 24  
 இலக் ௨௪

PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY.

பகைத்துக்கொருமுறை புதன் கிழமைகளிற் பிரசுரிக்கப்படும்.

## THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY AUGUST 3, 1898

### THE NORTHERN PROVINCE.

(continued from our last issue)

As regards the health of the people during 1897 Mr. Fisher writes:—

An examination of the Vital Statistics for the last two years shows that the health of the people was generally good, and there has been very little variation in the number of marriages, births, and deaths. The outbreak of cholera already referred to added but slightly to the death-rate, as there were only 68 deaths resulting from 136 attacks. Malaria fever and chicken-pox prevailed as usual to some extent, but the mortality from these causes was inconsiderable.

The total value of the imports into and exports from the Province, both beyond sea and coastwise, was in 1897 Rs 8,043,402, as against Rs 10,123,898 in 1896.

The administration of the markets of this Province is as our readers are aware, vested in the District Road Committees. We find from a return of the Receipts and Expenditures on account of the market fund for the year under review that the total receipts were, including the balance of Rs 4,168-74 on 1st January 1898, Rs 8,063-61, and the expenditures amounted to Rs 4,705-80. Among the items of expenditure are "Regulating the tower clock Rs 120" and "Firing time gun at the Fort Rs 119-21". We fail to see any connection between the market fund and the Clock Tower or the firing of time gun. These are excellent and useful things no doubt, but the money required for their up-keep must be found from other sources. The diversion of the market fund for these two purposes is, to say the least, a gross irregularity, not to say breach of trust on the part of the Road Committee. The market fund is intended solely for the improvement and conservancy of our markets, and the members of the Committee have acted *ultra vires* in voting these amounts for those purposes.

Mr. Fisher's proposals in regard to new works are:—

(1) Water Supply to the Town of Jaffna.

The only feasible scheme under consideration is the one for pumping a supply from Puttur well into cisterns and thence conveying the water in pipes to the town. The maintenance of the works will undoubtedly prove expensive, but as the water-rate will be widely distributed the incidence of taxation will not prove heavy.

(2) Reclamation of the Karaiyur Flat.

I submitted proposals in connection with this scheme to Government in the course of the year, and advised that the work should be given on contract. Much of the proposed expenditure would undoubtedly be recouped by the sale of the reclaimed land, and I trust that a commencement will be made with the work next year. If given on contract the whole work might be finished in two years.

(3) Construction of a large Central Hospital at Jaffna.

The Friend-in-Need Society hospital is scarcely up to date. It has done excellent work in its time, but should now be superseded by a Government civil hospital with sufficient accommodation to meet the needs of the large population of the peninsula, and under proper control.

(4) Opening of Telegraph Line from Madawachchi via Vavuniya to Jaffna, with Branch Line from Mankulam to Mullaitivu.

For administrative purposes it is most important that the Central road stations and Mullaitivu should be placed in direct telegraphic communication with headquarters, and I therefore recommend the abandonment of the Mannar-Jaffna line and the substitution of one running up the Central road. It is very difficult to understand why the former line was ever adopted.

(5) Opening of Roads from Paranthan to Mullaitivu and to Mannar.

The opening of direct roads from this point to both Mullaitivu and Mannar will open up the Vanni districts on both sides of the railway line, and will

afford a ready means of approach to the railway both from Mullaitivu and Mannar, assuming that Paranthan will remain a terminal point for some years, which seem probable.

(6) The Scientific dredging of the Channels in the Jaffna Lake.

The purchase of a dredger has been under consideration for some years, and if steps are not soon taken to remove weeds and silt in some more efficient manner than is done at present the Governments will ultimately be forced to incur a very heavy expenditure in widening and deepening the channels. The placing of a dredger in the lake is therefore a matter of urgency.

(7) The Improvement of the Approach to Kayts Harbour so as to make it accessible at all times of the Year.

The port of Kayts is rapidly gaining in importance, and if it were only made accessible to shipping by the removal of what are reported to be comparatively trifling obstructions, it would undoubtedly become the port of the Northern Province, especially if connected with Jaffna by rail, as I have suggested elsewhere. It is open to shipping all the year round, whereas the ports of Kankesanburai, Valvettiturai, and Point Pedro are unapproachable at certain seasons. An examination of the entrance to the harbour should, I think, be undertaken at once and an estimate framed, if possible, for the formation of a safe channel.

Railways.

An examination of the line of railway as at present traced from Elephant Pass to Kankesanburai satisfied me that the route followed was not the one best adapted for securing the maximum amount of traffic, and I therefore suggested an alternative trace with certain extensions which would more or less girdle the peninsula and secure the traffic of the outports. I also advanced the opinion that such a line as I described would pay *ab initio*, and that even if it were not carried beyond Elephant Pass it would still afford an outlet into the Vanni for the congested population of the peninsula, and that this having been secured a further extension southward was not of immediate importance. His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint a Commission to investigate the matter, and I believe that the report sent in is favourable to the construction of the line, but the Commissioners recommend an extension beyond Elephant Pass to Paranthan as a more favourable terminal point. With this proposal I entirely agree, as good water and supplies can be more readily obtained there, and better ground is available for the construction of buildings than can be obtained at Elephant Pass. I only hope the labours of the Commissioners will result in the early commencement of a work which must revolutionize the country.

Irrigation.

I regret to say that the works under construction did not make much progress during the year owing to the scarcity of labour, but both the Giant's tank in the Mannar District and Kaakkenni tank in the Mullaitivu District were far advanced towards completion. It is not desirable to commence other works until the completion of these, but the surveys of both the Kurai and Akattamurippu schemes should be undertaken at once in order that the Provincial Irrigation Board may be in a position to recommend their construction as soon as the others are out of hand. The resuscitation of the Vanni districts will largely augment the food supply of the Province, and it is on the repairs of these works and the gradual restoration of the village tanks that the future prosperity of the Province largely depends, and with a railway outlet to the Karachchi division there is every prospect of extensive tracts of country being brought under rice and tobacco cultivation. Full details of the expenditure incurred on irrigation works have already been supplied to the Central Board, and they therefore find no place in this report.

### R. W. ALLEGACCOON MUDALIYAR.

We congratulate this gentleman on his appointment as a Cadet in the Lower Division of the Civil Service and Additional Police Magistrate of Kalutara. His Excellency the Governor deserves the thanks of the Tamils of Ceylon in general and of the Tamils of the Eastern Province in particular for this act of merited recognition. Mr. Allegacoon is an officer of proved ability, high social position and long official experience. He belongs to a family which has for several generations held offices of trust and responsibility under the Dutch and English Governments. His father

was the late William Allegacoon Mudaliyar of the Governor's Gate, Shroff of the Batticaloa Kachcheri, and his grand-father was Head Clerk of the Batticaloa Kachcheri and Deputy Fiscal. Mr. Advocate Allegacoon of Jaffna is an uncle of the new Cadet. He is married to the second daughter of the late Dr. Covington, senior Medical Officer, Eastern Province.

Though Mr. Allegacoon is elevated to his present position from the third clerkship of the Batticaloa Kachcheri, yet he has been recommended for an appointment in the Civil Service for some years past by more than one Government Agent of the Eastern Province, on account of his abilities, character, and status in society. Knowing as we do Mr. Allegacoon's abilities, energy and devotion to duty, we have no doubt that he will justify His Excellency's choice and prove a worthy member of Her Majesty's Civil Service in the Colony. Mr. Allegacoon's training having been all along in the revenue line it would have been in the fitness of things if he was made an Office Assistant in a Kachcheri. But we feel sure that he will soon make an able and efficient judicial officer also.

### ARE TEMPLE MANIAMS MANAGERS?

(communicated)

The words *Maniam* and *Maniagan* are in our law courts rendered into *Manager* by interpreters without considering to what a large extent, this little mistake tends to the misdirection of the presiding judge and consequent deviation of the course of justice. By a convenient system, founded on no authority both transliteration and translation are intended to agree in the rendering of "Maniagar" into "Manager." The judge takes the word "Manager" in its full English sense as one invested with sole control over every individual and department belonging to the temple concerned; and as a consequence many priests possessing long hereditary rights to the Poojah functions and their emoluments have had to give way to the grasping aggression of the *Maniams*. And the matter does not end here. The expelled priests have their sympathisers, and factious crimes and further lawsuits ensue. *Maniams* in South India are a set of salaried lay officers concerned with secular affairs, and these have no more right to expel the priests than the clerks in one department of a Government office can those of another. The priests especially the hereditary ones, are held too sacred, that even the Dharma Kartas or Trustees cannot eject them, except in cases of obviously gross misconduct and violation of caste rules. Even for this the Trustees should first, we believe, proceed constitutionally. In Jaffna the *Maniam* or *Maniagar* is one who has derived from his ancestors or by force the right to certain honors during the annual festivals, and some sort of supervision over the temporal affairs of the temple. These can have no control over the hereditary priests and their perquisites on which unprincipled *Maniams* of popular Temples frequently cast longing eyes. Friction ensues and the weak thread wearers yield to force and stratagem and go out. They seek restitution from the law courts where the mistranslated word "Maniagar" and accommodating counter evidence settles the decision against them. That injustice reigns in some of our temples and that the present state if the law allows of no remedy is patent to all. Fresh legislation is required to safeguard the temporal interests of Hindu Temples and the supplying of this can never be described as state aid to religion.



# இந்துசாதனம்.

# சமரசாரம்

### கணபதி துணை

வாழ்கவந்தனர்வானவராளினம்.....  
 விழ்ச்சைப்புவல்வீவந்தவமொருகு.....  
 ஆழ்ச்சையெல்லாமலாமமே.....  
 குழ்ச்சையெல்லாமலாமமே.....

## விளம்பரம்.

இவ்வியந்திரசாலையில் விலைப்படும  
 புத்தகங்கள்.

கமர்சிவாயமலை...	...	...	...
ஆத்திரகுடி கொன்றைவேந்தன் உரை...	...	...	...
முதலாம் பாலபாடம்...	...	...	...
இரண்டாம் பாலபாடம்...	...	...	...
மூன்றாம் பாலபாடம்...	...	...	...
காலாம் பாலபாடம்...	...	...	...
ஐந்தாம் பாலபாடம்...	...	...	...
சிவாலய தரிசனவிதி...	...	...	...
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பூமிசாஸ்திரவிளக்கம் 10-ம், 11-ம், 12-ம்.	...	...	...
13-ம், 14-ம், 15-ம், 16-ம், 17-ம், 18-ம்.	...	...	...
மறைநகரவந்தாயுதம்...	...	...	...
வைதிக சைவ சந்தாந்தவித	...	...	...
சைவ சிந்தாந்தம்...	...	...	...
நிசர்ந்தி முதலாவதுமுதல் 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-1038-1039-1040-1041-1042-1043-1044-1045-1046-1047-1048-1049-1050-1051-1052-1053-1054-1055-1056-1057-1058-1059-1060-1061-1062-1063-1064-1065-1066-1067-1068-1069-1070-1071-1072-1073-1074-1075-1076-1077-1078-1079-1080-1081-1082-1083-1084-1085-1086-1087-1088-1089-1090-1091-1092-1093-1094-1095-1096-1097-1098-1099-1100-1101-1102-1103-1104-1105-1106-1107-1108-1109-1110-1111-1112-1113-1114-1115-1116-1117-1118-1119-1120-1121-1122-1123-1124-1125-1126-1127-1128-1129-1130-1131-1132-1133-1134-1135-1136-1137-1138-1139-1140-1141-1142-1143-1144-1145-1146-1147-1148-1149-1150-1151-1152-1153-1154-1155-1156-1157-1158-1159-1160-1161-1162-1163-1164-1165-1166-1167-1168-1169-1170-1171-1172-1173-1174-1175-1176-1177-1178-1179-1180-1181-1182-1183-1184-1185-1186-1187-1188-1189-1190-1191-1192-1193-1194-1195-1196-1197-1198-1199-1200-1201-1202-1203-1204-1205-1206-1207-1208-1209-1210-1211-1212-1213-1214-1215-1216-1217-1218-1219-1220-1221-1222-1223-1224-1225-1226-1227-1228-1229-1230-1231-1232-1233-1234-1235-1236-1237-1238-1239-1240-1241-1242-1243-1244-1245-1246-1247-1248-1249-1250-1251-1252-1253-1254-1255-1256-1257-1258-1259-1260-1261-1262-1263-1264-1265-1266-1267-1268-1269-1270-1271-1272-1273-1274-1275-1276-1277-1278-1279-1280-1281-1282-1283-1284-1285-1286-1287-1288-1289-1290-1291-1292-1293-1294-1295-1296-1297-1298-1299-1300-1301-1302-1303-1304-1305-1306-1307-1308-1309-1310-1311-1312-1313-1314-1315-1316-1317-1318-1319-1320-1321-1322-1323-1324-1325-1326-1327-1328-1329-1330-1331-1332-1333-1334-1335-1336-1337-1338-1339-1340-1341-1342-1343-1344-1345-1346-1347-1348-1349-1350-1351-1352-1353-1354-1355-1356-1357-1358-1359-1360-1361-1362-1363-1364-1365-1366-1367-1368-1369-1370-1371-1372-1373-1374-1375-1376-1377-1378-1379-1380-1381-1382-1383-1384-1385-1386-1387-1388-1389-1390-1391-1392-1393-1394-1395-1396-1397-1398-1399-1400-1401-1402-1403-1404-1405-1406-1407-1408-1409-1410-1411-1412-1413-1414-1415-1416-1417-1418-1419-1420-1421-1422-1423-1424-1425-1426-1427-1428-1429-1430-1431-1432-1433-1434-1435-1436-1437-1438-1439-1440-1441-1442-1443-1444-1445-1446-1447-1448-1449-1450-1451-1452-1453-1454-1455-1456-1457-1458-1459-1460-1461-1462-1463-1464-1465-1466-1467-1468-1469-1470-1471-1472-1473-1474-1475-1476-1477-1478-1479-1480-1481-1482-1483-1484-1485-1486-1487-1488-1489-1490-1491-1492-1493-1494-1495-1496-1497-1498-1499-1500-1501-1502-1503-1504-1505-1506-1507-1508-1509-1510-1511-1512-1513-1514-1515-1516-1517-1518-1519-1520-1521-1522-1523-1524-1525-1526-1527-1528-1529-1530-1531-1532-1533-1534-1535-1536-1537-1538-1539-1540-1541-1542-1543-1544-1545-1546-1547-1548-1549-1550-1551-1552-1553-1554-1555-1556-1557-1558-1559-1560-1561-1562-1563-1564-1565-1566-1567-1568-1569-1570-1571-1572-1573-1574-1575-1576-1577-1578-1579-1580-1581-1582-1583-1584-1585-1586-1587-1588-1589-1590-1591-1592-1593-1594-1595-1596-1597-1598-1599-1600-1601-1602-1603-1604-1605-1606-1607-1608-1609-1610-1611-1612-1613-1614-1615-1616-1617-1618-1619-1620-1621-1622-1623-1624-1625-1626-1627-1628-1629-1630-1631-1632-1633-1634-1635-1636-1637-1638-1639-1640-1641-1642-1643-1644-1645-1646-1647-1648-1649-1650-1651-1652-1653-1654-1655-1656-1657-1658-1659-1660-1661-1662-1663-1664-1665-1666-1667-1668-1669-1670-1671-1672-1673-1674-1675-1676-1677-1678-1679-1680-1681-1682-1683-1684-1685-1686-1687-1688-1689-1690-1691-1692-1693-1694-1695-1696-1697-1698-1699-1700-1701-1702-1703-1704-1705-1706-1707-1708-1709-1710-1711-1712-1713-1714-1715-1716-1717-1718-1719-1720-1721-1722-1723-1724-1725-1726-1727-1728-1729-1730-1731-1732-1733-1734-1735-1736-1737-1738-1739-1740-1741-1742-1743-1744-1745-1746-1747-1748-1749-1750-1751-1752-1753-1754-1755-1756-1757-1758-1759-1760-1761-1762-1763-1764-1765-1766-1767-1768-1769-1770-1771-1772-1773-1774-1775-1776-1777-1778-1779-1780-1781-1782-1783-1784-1785-1786-1787-1788-1789-1790-1791-1792-1793-1794-1795-1796-1797-1798-1799-1800-1801-1802-1803-1804-1805-1806-1807-1808-1809-1810-1811-1812-1813-1814-1815-1816-1817-1818-1819-1820-1821-1822-1823-1824-1825-1826-1827-1828-1829-1830-1831-1832-1833-1834-1835-1836-1837-1838-1839-1840-1841-1842-1843-1844-1845-1846-1847-1848-1849-1850-1851-1852-1853-1854-1855-1856-1857-1858-1859-1860-1861-1862-1863-1864-1865-1866-1867-1868-1869-1870-1871-1872-1873-1874-1875-1876-1877-1878-1879-1880-1881-1882-1883-1884-1885-1886-1887-1888-1889-1890-1891-1892-1893-1894-1895-1896-1897-1898-1899-1900-1901-1902-1903-1904-1905-1906-1907-1908-1909-1910-1911-1912-1913-1914-1915-1916-1917-1918-1919-1920-1921-1922-1923-1924-1925-1926-1927-1928-1929-1930-1931-1932-1933-1934-1935-1936-1937-1938-1939-1940-1941-1942-1943-1944-1945-1946-1947-1948-1949-1950-1951-1952-1953-1954-1955-1956-1957-1958-1959-1960-1961-1962-1963-1964-1965-1966-1967-1968-1969-1970-1971-1972-1973-1974-1975-1976-1977-1978-1979-1980-1981-1982-1983-1984-1985-1986-1987-1988-1989-1990-1991-1992-1993-1994-1995-1996-1997-1998-1999-2000-2001-2002-2003-2004-2005-2006-2007-2008-2009-2010-2011-2012-2013-2014-2015-2016-2017-2018-2019-2020-2021-2022-2023-2024-2025-2026-2027-2028-2029-2030-2031-2032-2033-2034-2035-2036-2037-2038-2039-2040-2041-2042-2043-2044-2045-2046-2047-2048-2049-2050-2051-2052-2053-2054-2055-2056-2057-2058-2059-2060-2061-2062-2063-2064-2065-2066-2067-2068-2069-2070-2071-2072-2073-2074-2075-2076-2077-2078-2079-2080-2081-2082-2083-2084-2085-2086-2087-2088-2089-2090-2091-2092-2093-2094-2095-2096-2097-2098-2099-2100-2101-2102-2103-2104-2105-2106-2107-2108-2109-2110-2111-2112-2113-2114-2115-2116-2117-2118-2119-2120-2121-2122-2123-2124-2125-2126-2127-2128-2129-2130-2131-2132-2133-2134-2135-2136-2137-2138-2139-2140-2141-2142-2143-2144-2145-2146-2147-2148-2149-2150-2151-2152-2153-2154-2155-2156-2157-2158-2159-2160-2161-2162-2163-2164-2165-2166-2167-2168-2169-2170-2171-2172-2173-2174-2175-2176-2177-2178-2179-2180-2181-2182-2183-2184-2185-2186-2187-2188-2189-2190-2191-2192-2193-2194-2195-2196-2197-2198-2199-2200-2201-2202-2203-2204-2205-2206-2207-2208-2209-2210-2211-2212-2213-2214-2215-2216-2217-2218-2219-2220-2221-2222-2223-2224-2225-2226-2227-2228-2229-2230-2231-2232-2233-2234-2235-2236-2237-2238-2239-2240-2241-2242-2243-2244-2245-2246-2247-2248-2249-2250-2251-2252-2253-2254-2255-2256-2257-2258-2259-2260-2261-2262-2263-2264-2265-2266-2267-2268-2269-2270-2271-2272-2273-2274-2275-2276-2277-2278-2279-2280-2281-2282-2283-2284-2285-2286-2287-2288-2289-2290-2291-2292-2293-2294-2295-2296-2297-2298-2299-2300-2301-2302-2303-2304-2305-2306-2307-2308-2309-2310-2311-2312-2313-2314-2315-2316-2317-2318-2319-2320-2321-2322-2323-2324-2325-2326-2327-2328-2329-2330-2331-2332-2333-2334-2335-2336-2337-2338-2339-2340-2341-2342-2343-2344-2345-2346-2347-2348-2349-2350-2351-2352-2353-2354-2355-2356-2357-2358-2359-2360-2361-2362-2363-2364-2365-2366-2367-2368-2369-2370-2371-2372-2373-2374-2375-2376-2377-2378-2379-2380-2381-2382-2383-2384-2385-2386-2387-2388-2389-2390-2391-2392-2393-2394-2395-2396-2397-2398-2399-2400-2401-2402-2403-2404-2405-2406-2407-2408-2409-2410-2411-2412-2413-2414-2415-2416-2417-2418-2419-2420-2421-2422-2423-2424-2425-2426-2427-2428-2429-2430-2431-2432-2433-2434-2435-2436-2437-2438-2439-2440-2441-2442-2443-2444-2445-2446-2447-2448-2449-2450-2451-2452-2453-2454-2455-2456-2457-2458-2459-2460-2461-2462-2463-2464-2465-2466-2467-2468-2469-2470-2471-2472-2473-2474-2475-2476-2477-2478-2479-2480-2481-24			







LOCAL AND GENERAL.

**The Weather**—The heat is intense, owing to want of rain. Influenza is prevailing in some parts of the Town and its suburbs.

**The Government Agent**—Mr. Ievers left this for Colombo on the 1st Instant by land to attend the Darbar of Government Agents to be held on the 10th Instant.

**Supreme Court**—The latest information is that the Supreme Court Sessions will begin on the 26th Instant. There are six cases on the Calendar, two cases of forgery both from the Jaffna Police Court; two cases of murder, one from Kaits Court and the other from Chavakachcheri Court; one case of house breaking and theft from the Jaffna Police Court; and the other is the famous abduction case from the Jaffna Police Court.

It is rumoured that Mr. Rudra is coming down from Colombo to defend the accused in the abduction case.

**The Ceylon Patriot**—The thirty-fifth anniversary of the starting of this paper was celebrated on the 28th ultimo by a meeting held in the building known as the Pettah Boys school, under the presidency of Mr. Kathiravalupillai, retired Police Magistrate of Kaits who started it in 1863.

**Cholera**—There were sixty persons attacked with this epidemic in the Vadamarachi Division of whom about 40 died.

**Northern Railway**—The survey of the route proposed by the Commissioners who lately visited Jaffna has been entrusted to parties of surveyors, one party to proceed from Chavakachcheri eastwards and the other from Pallai to Paranthan. It is proposed to have the principal station behind the Jaffna Fort and it is most likely that the Small-pox hospital behind the Fort will be removed to some other place.

**Mr. Ananda Coomaraswamy**—We are pleased to hear, says the 'Independent', that Mr. Ananda Coomaraswamy has come off very well in the Examination of his College—University College London—held recently. He was awarded silver medal for Zoology; gold medal for Botany; 3 books for Mechanics and a scholarship of £ 150 a year for two years. He and his mother are coming to Ceylon in October on a short visit.

**The Rajah of Ramnad**—His Highness Setupathi has been spending several months at the temple of Rameswaram, maintaining order and discipline in the Temple and putting down corruption. The Rajah has been well known during his career as a patron of learning and the arts and as a liberal supporter of religious movements of which the chief was the Mission of Swami Vivekananda to America. He has decided to spend the rest of his days and means in the cause of religion. He appears to be indifferent to worldly ambition and is determined to lead a quiet, peaceful, independent and useful life. He has had an invitation from Swami Vivekananda for a lecturing tour in North India but was not able to accede to it at the time. He seems inclined to make a lecturing tour in South India and possibly he may be induced to visit Jaffna in the cause of religion some time in the future. —Cor.

**Personal**—Mr. H. Tiruvilangam, Proctor of the Supreme Court, son of Hallock Murugasa Mudaliyar, is now in Jaffna having come from Colombo for the benefit of his health.

**The Jaffna Commercial Corporation**—A special general meeting of this Company was held under the presidency of Mr. Proctor V. Casipillai in the office of the Corporation on the 1st Instant. A large number of shareholders were present. A resolution was passed authorizing the issue of 2500 new shares of Rs 20 each, to increase the capital of the Company with the view to commence business in paddy also. Some of the Shareholders expressed themselves doubtful of the benefits and wisdom of paddy being included in the business of the Corporation. But ultimately they allowed the resolution to be carried unanimously, influenced by the consideration that a trial should be made with this business also in the interest of the country. If it succeeds the Corporation will do immense good to the Jaffna public as it has done in the matter of cheapening the other necessary of life, cloth.

We may state in this connection that the Corporation is in a highly prosperous condition. It is going to declare a dividend for the year which ended on the 30th June last such as few joint stock companies in the Island have been able to do. Great credit is due for launching this company and managing it so successfully to the Managing Director, Mr. William Mather,

**Dr. Lewis A. Valladares**—We are very glad to learn that this gentleman who has been practising his profession in Jaffna for the last two years has been appointed by the Roman Catholic Mission in Jaffna as their Doctor in succession to Dr. Grenier. During the time he has been here he has endeared himself to his patients by his professional skill and kind disposition. Dr. Valladares who is an L. M. S. Bombay is a specialist in certain diseases and has introduced new modes of curing them.

**Prize Distribution**—The 20th Anniversary and prize distribution of the South Manipay Vernacular Sivite School took place on the 30th ultimo in the presence of many of the leading gentlemen of the village. In addition to the prizes supplied by the school authorities several of the neighbouring gentry sent valuable books, writing materials, and other things which were handed to the children by Mr. A. Supayah, retired Shroff who presided on the occasion. The exercises consisted of recitations, hymn (Devaram) singing and a humorous farce, all by the children. Messrs K. Navasivayam B A and V. Ramalingam and the school Manager Mr. S. K. Lawton addressed the meeting at the close of the proceedings. The school was well decorated and a party of musicians played at intervals during the proceedings.—Cor.

**An Accused runs away**—Recently a Nalava man was committed to the District Court of Jaffna to be tried on a charge of grievous hurt but the accused ran away on the District Judge declining to proceed with the case as he did not on the day fixed for trial receive the Fiat from the Attorney-General's Department authorising him to try the case. It remains to be seen what steps would be taken by the Attorney-General to bring the criminal to book.

**Jaffna Literary Association**—A meeting of this association was held in the hall of the building called Sornamaliy in Pettah when one of the members spoke about the usefulness of the dowry system prevailing in Jaffna.

—A Nattukottai Chetty of the biggest firm in Jaffna has been charged in the P. C. of Jaffna by Mr. Ramanathar Ponnuchamy of Vannarponnai with criminal breach of trust with regard to a cheque for Rs. 4500 which is alleged to have been handed over to the Chetty to be cashed.

**Rioting**—Nineteen young men of Nellore were recently committed to the District Court of Jaffna to be tried on a charge of rioting and twelve of them were convicted and fined fifty rupees each.

**Cyclone**—The effect of a cyclone in the Bay of Bengal was felt in Colombo on the 27th of July and it is said to have damaged many buildings.

—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is recovering rapidly from the effects of the accident His Highness lately had.

**Jaffna Union**—Some of the young lawyers in Jaffna held the first meeting of the Jaffna Union on the 9th instant in the 'Museum' office and it remains to be seen whether they will continue to hold the meeting regularly.

**The Art of Graphology**—We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of this work from its author, Mr. J. W. Small, F. C. S.; F. G. S.; F. A. I. G. B. I.; M. R. A. S. (C. B.), Principal of Victoria College, Chulipuram, Jaffna.

**Vavuniya**—We learn that on the abolition of this Kachcheri, a Village Tribunal will be established there with a President possessing competent knowledge of Sinhalese and Tamil.

HIGHER BRANCHES OF ORIENTAL LITERATURE

Mr. Seneviratne moved in the Legislative Council on the 23rd Ultimo for a return showing the number of students presented for examination in the higher branches of Oriental Literature during the past ten years. In doing so, he said that his object in making the motion was to call the attention of the Government to the remarks made by the Director of public instruction as regards the encouragement given by Government to the higher branches of Oriental Literature.

Mr. Ramanathan, the acting Attorney-General, who spoke during the debate on the subject said he had not intended to speak on the occasion, because he had not had the

advantage of conferring with his hon. friend the Sinhalese member on the interesting subject which formed the subject of his remarks. And in addition he had been very busy. But from the remarks that had fallen from his hon. friend, he understood that the kind of encouragement he expected the Government to give to the cultivation of the higher branches of oriental literature was payment, not merely to the Vidyodaya College but also to other institutions which were said to be existing in the Island. He was not quite sure whether the Government would agree to it, but if the efforts made by the Vidyodaya College, were any indication of the extent of the enterprise and ability which might be brought to bear upon the cultivation of Oriental literature, he thought they might expect much the same results from the other institutions which were at present being supervised by the native pundits. If he might be allowed a practical suggestion, he would recommend that some effort be made by the Government to induce an institution like the London University to alter its programme of subjects to the extent of admitting Tamil and Sinhalese into the curriculum of its studies in the place of, say, Greek—or even Latin. However much he might admire Latin, he could not help deploring the great neglect which now prevailed throughout the length and breadth of Ceylon as regarded the cultivation of its own Vernacular languages. The Sinhalese language was a very pretty language, and the Tamil language was said to be second not even to the Sanskrit language and literature especially in regard to Philosophy. Possessing as we do in our midst two languages which might well adorn any community, it was, he thought, a great pity that the young men of the country took no pains whatever to cultivate them to the extent they deserved. The neglect was so outrageous, that it was the custom of the country now for two sisters to address each other in the English language—not merely sisters, but brothers, mothers and sons, and so on, and it was no unusual thing very often to meet with men high up in the Government service or high up in commercial circles speaking to each other in the English language, and if they were asked to express the same ideas in their own beautiful language, they found themselves perfectly at sea. The abstract ideas which might be conveyed very effectively by their own language was no longer possible for them; and if the sons of the country could not speak their own language with some purity, he wished to know who was to speak it for them. He always considered it a standing disgrace for the educated sons of the country to continue to neglect those two languages which were so much admired elsewhere. On one occasion, while in London, he had the pleasure of meeting Sir John Lubbock, who was vice-Chancellor, still he believed, of the London University, and he spoke to him about the desirability of altering the examinations to the extent he had indicated to them that day. Sir John told him it was not for him (Sir John) to support the proposition, or to put the proposal before the London University, but that, if a fair representation were made by some responsible person or corporation from Ceylon, the London University would be glad to consider the proposal, and that he for his part would give his assistance to it with pleasure. He (the speaker) thought the best way of advancing the cultivation of Oriental literature would be to induce the London University examination—or board of examiners—to recognise the Tamil and Sinhalese languages in their list, and for the Government of the country to offer some decent scholarships—one or two—for each of the languages, and so allow the country to compete in those subjects instead of in Latin and Greek. He was sure that so far as his countrymen were concerned they would support the proposal he had made. At the same time he submitted that the proposal would be received with some opposition by those gentlemen who were interested in the support of institutions like the Vidyodaya College and other Colleges which at present either received a grant—or expected to receive one—from the Government. Nevertheless, he strongly believed in the proposal he had made and he only hoped the Government would see their way to make a representation to the London University on the lines he had expressed.

The Lt-Governor said that not being an Oriental scholar, he did not understand the subject of the motion very well, but as a servant of Government he was bound to reply. Hitherto, in considering the subject of Oriental literature he had not thought that it included the Sinhalese and Tamil languages. In speaking of Oriental literature he had always understood that the languages, Pali and Sanskrit, only were meant. The Government, if it could do anything in the direction pointed out by the Attorney-General, would be only too glad to do so. There was no objection on the part of Government to furnishing the returns asked for. At the same time he would like to say that he was not sure whether the hon. the Sinhalese member wanted the number of students who presented themselves for examination from the Vidyodaya College alone, from the whole Island. He, might further state that Government had long been far from satisfied with the progress made in the study of Oriental languages in Ceylon. The Director of Public Instruction was formulating a scheme which, he thought, would tend greatly to the growth of the cultivation of Oriental literature in Ceylon.

Mr. Seneviratne said he wished to have both the lists referred to by His Excellency the Lt-Governor. He was very glad of the encouraging words spoken by His Excellency, and he might also—perhaps not so much as a reply to what his learned friend the Attorney-General said, but slightly differing from him—say that what he meant by higher branches of Oriental literature were the higher branches of Sanskrit, Pali and Elu—Elu being the ancient Sinhalese. And he must also admit that encouragement had been given to the study of classical Sinhalese in Government schools, and if enquires were made it would be found that there were more Sinhalese students at the present day—perhaps ten times more—than there were twenty years ago.

The motion was agreed to, and the matter dropped.